

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

Restriction

Restriction was made to three groups:

- I. Claims 1-12 and 22-54, drawn to a process of making staple fibers;
- II. Claims 13-20, drawn to staple fibers/yarn/fabric; and
- III. Claim 21, drawn to a process of making staple fibers.

Applicants affirm election of Group I. The claims in the other groups have either been amended as process claims dependent on claim 1 or have been cancelled. Specifically, Claims 13-15 have been amended so that they are process claims and it is believed they now fall within group I. Claims 16-20 have been cancelled. Claim 21 has been amended to depend upon claim 1, so it is believed to be properly pending. Consequently, applicants submit that all of the claims are properly pending.

Abstract

Applicants have amended the abstract as suggested in the Action.

Title

The title of the invention has been amended to be more descriptive, to read: "PROCESS FOR MAKING POLY(TRIMETHYLENE TEREPHTHALATE) STAPLE FIBERS."

Claim 48

Claim 48 stands rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph. The Action states that "the water spray" does not have clear and proper antecedent basis, and that it appears that claim 48 should depend from claim 46 or 47. Applicants have amended claim 48 to depend from claim 47. Entry of this amendment and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants and the undersigned thank the Examiner for pointing out the allowable subject matter. It is believed that the amendments herein place the claims in condition for allowance.

Amended Claims

Claims 1, 10, 12, 13 and 14 have been amended to remove the parentheticals with metric conversions.

Claims 13-15 have been amended so that they are process claims. Claims 16-20 have been cancelled.

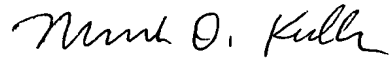
Claim 21 has been amended to depend upon claim 1.

Claim 48 has been amended to depend from claim 47 (as discussed above).

Entry and consideration are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark D. Kuller
Attorney For Applicants
Registration No.: 31,925
Telephone: (302) 892-1354
Facsimile: (302) 892-7925

Dated: September 30, 2003